Creating the First Database to Measure the Availability of Innovative Oncology Medicines in Latin America: A Tool to Enable Multistakeholder Engagement

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BACKGROUND

Improving the availability of innovative medicines in Latin America is a priority for all stakeholders in the healthcare system, especially policymakers, pharmaceutical manufacturers, and patients. Since 2004, the European Pharmaceutical Industry Association (E.F.P.I.A.) has run the Patients W.A.I.T. (Waiting to Access Innovative Therapies) Indicator, enabling stakeholders to measure the availability rate of innovative medicines in 37 European countries. This study has been replicated to understand time to availability across eight countries, and availability across ten.

OBJECTIVE

Improving the availability of innovative medicines in Latin America is a priority across stakeholders. Since 2004, EFPIA has run the Patient W.A.I.T. Indicator, enabling stakeholders to measure the availability rate of innovative medicines in 37 European countries. This study has been adapted to understand availability in ten Latin American Countries.

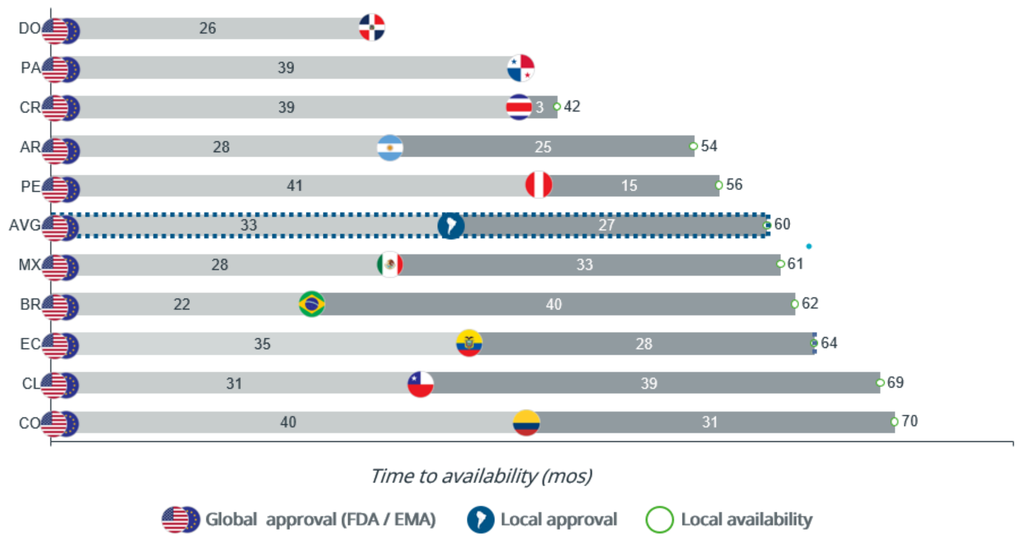
METHODS

A group of 115 globally approved innovative oncology was selected. The definitions of 'availability' and 'time to access,' were adjusted across the countries to address health care system design. Full availability has been defined as a national reimbursement listing or the closest approximation to this in non- universal systems. Local pharmaceutical industry associations gathered the data among their affiliates, complementing it with additional public information.

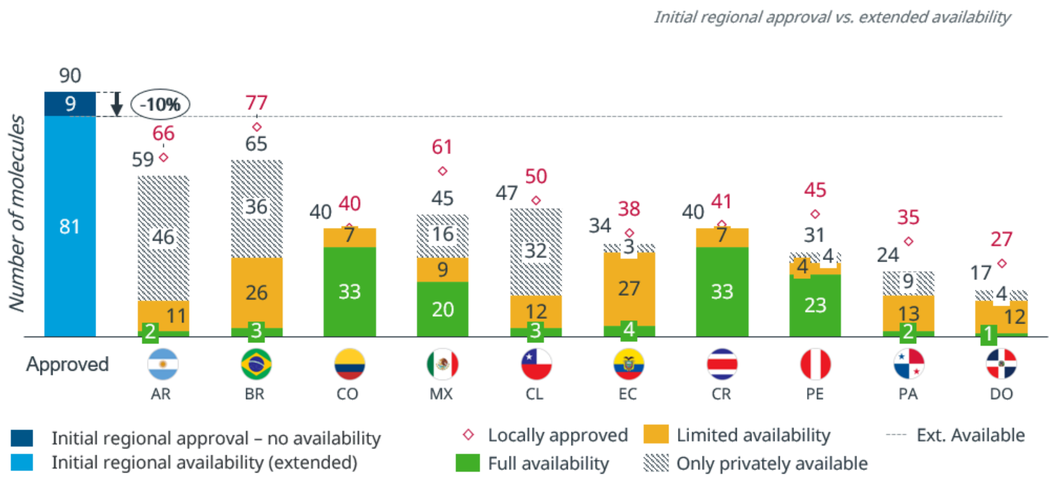
RESULTS

The average availability rate of oncology medicines was 23% of those globally approved, and 58% of molecules locally approved (2014-2023); an average of 41% of molecules were approved locally. In Europe, the average availability rate was 50%. Brazil reported the highest rate of availability at 43% of globally approved molecules, and 79% of those locally approved (54%), whereas Peru had most opportunity for improvement, with 15% of globally approved, and 53% of locally approved (28%). The average delay between local market authorization and reimbursement ranged from 1.6 to 3.6 years.[1]

Time to availability from global approval (2014 - 2023)



Breakdown of local availability (2014 - 2023)



CONCLUSION

There are substantial challenges for patients in obtaining access to innovative oncology medicines in Latin America, especially compared to Europe. To identify the root causes of the lack of availability or delays to it, efforts to collect and analyze availability data are an important step, but a broader, multi-stakeholder approach is critical to develop an action plan to address these challenges.

[1] Excluding CR.

REFERENCES

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2. IQVIA Consulting

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